

MEDICAL AND HEALTH AGENCY NEWS



Lucy M. T. Wanzer was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Women Physicians' Club of San Francisco at the Clift Hotel, November 2. The occasion was the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Doctor Wanzer in the practice of medicine. Ninety women physicians from San Francisco and neighboring cities were present. Louise B. Deal, president of the club, introduced Emma Sutro Merritt, who acted as toastmistress. Doctor Merritt told of the early struggles of Doctor Wanzer, who was not only self-supporting from an early age, but was the mainstay of a large family. While acting as breadwinner in the capacity of seamstress, postmistress, and school teacher, she went on with her education and steadfastly adhered to her purpose of fitting herself to study medicine. She was finally admitted to Toland Medical School, and after many vicissitudes was awarded her degree on November 1, 1876. She was the first woman physician to graduate from the University of California. The difficulties encountered in establishing a practice and securing hospital accommodations were overcome by a combination of hard work, strict attention to business, and rigid adherence to the ideals of her profession. Doctor Wanzer's part in the founding and development of the Children's Hospital was referred to by Doctor Merritt, and several of the other speakers. Margaret Mahoney read a newspaper account of the graduating exercises of the Medical School as recorded by the *Alta California* of November 2, 1876, in which reference was made to the surprising fact that there was one "lady" among the graduates.

Expressions of congratulation and appreciation were conveyed to Doctor Wanzer by Emma K. Willits, representing the Children's Hospital, Mariana Bertola repre-

senting the State Federation of Women's Clubs, Alice Maxwell representing the University of California, Mary Layman representing Stanford University, and Kate Van Norden.

Edna Barney, secretary, read many letters and telegrams of congratulation, among which were one from Grace Kimball, president of the National Women's Medical Association, Emmet Rixford representing the San Francisco County Medical Society, William E. Musgrave, Lucy Sprague, and numerous others.

California Northern District Medical Society (John L. Lawson, secretary)—Report of the forty-first semi-annual meeting of the California Northern District Medical Society held in Woodland, California, October 26, 1926.

The morning session was devoted to clinics in the various departments of the Woodland Clinic in which all staff members participated.

Lunch was served at the Yolo Fliers Club, with the staff of the Woodland Clinic acting as hosts. About sixty places were occupied.

The afternoon session was called to order by J. O. Ciapella of Chico, president. It was well attended, there being between sixty-five and seventy members and guests present.

The scientific program was opened by Dr. Stanley Stillman of San Francisco, who spoke informally on "Experiences with the Female Breast," discussing chronic mastitis, carcinoma of the breast, adenomata, and other allied conditions. Discussion was opened by Fred R. Fairchild and continued by J. B. Harris, after which a general informal discussion was held.

The second paper was read by Walter M. Dickie, who spoke upon "Preventable Diseases from the Standpoint of the State Board of Health." This paper was discussed by H. D. Lawhead, Mrs. Rozzie Carrow, Smith McMullin, W. P. Lucas, Rooney, Poole, Bates, Beattie, and Gundrum.

F. H. Rodenbaugh, who was to have presented a paper on "Injuries and Anomalies of the Lumbar Spine," was unable to be present.

The final paper was given by William Palmer Lucas, who presented several case reports of chronic nutritional diseases in infants and children in a very able manner. Discussion was opened by E. S. Babcock and continued by J. Edward Harbinson.

Following the reading of these papers the annual business meeting was held, and the following physicians were elected to membership: Charles I. Titus, Sacramento; Frederick W. Dider, Wheatland; C. E. Reed, Redding.

The following officers were unanimously elected: John D. Lawson, Woodland, president; Dan Hazen Moulton, Chico, vice-president; Albert K. Dunlap, Sacramento, secretary; Walter E. Bates, Davis, treasurer. Drs. J. B. Harris, R. A. Peers, D. H. Moulton, Dewey R. Powell, and E. Eric Larson, Board of Censors.

A committee consisting of H. D. Lawhead, W. E. Bates, and J. B. Harris was appointed to draft a resolution of respect for the passing of two of the charter members, viz., Drs. J. H. Parkinson and O. Stansbury.

A rising vote of thanks was tendered to the Woodland Clinic and the officers of the society for the excellent meeting.

Tribute to the Memory of Dr. O. Stansbury—If we could know what death and its consequences are, possibly the parting from our beloved comrades would not be embittered by so much sadness.

But since we cannot know beyond the grave, we bow meekly to the dispensation of a just and all-wise Providence and find our sorrow over the death of our esteemed member, Dr. O. Stansbury, sweetened by the memory of his unpretentious, yet noble life.

We remember his personal sacrifices—his lifelong devotion, first to his family; next to the prevention and relief of the suffering of his multitudes of grateful patients whom he loved to serve and who loved his service.

Throughout his fifty-three years of active practice, we know his ethical support not only of his chosen profession—to which he was always faithful—but of church, of

school, and of every movement which meant the betterment of his profession and his community.

What a heritage thus graciously bestowed! What greater monument could human desire than the record of a life work so well done?

To Doctor Stansbury's family we tender the affectionate sympathy of every member of our society, to whom he was always a genial friend and by whom he is affectionately remembered.

(Signed) H. D. LAWHEAD
W. E. BATES
J. B. HARRIS

Committee of California Northern District Medical Society.

In Appreciation of Dr. James H. Parkinson—Again the cold hand of death has taken from us an esteemed and very active member—Dr. James H. Parkinson of Sacramento. Doctor Parkinson's death is an irreparable loss not only to our district society, but to general medicine and to all the medical activities of the state, for he was a conspicuous figure both officially and in general practice. He stood among our best as practitioner and consultant, and had filled most creditably the important offices in the various medical organizations of the state. And yet he never sought personal aggrandizement, but stood for the highest interests of his profession regardless of consequences to himself.

He was a high type Christian gentleman, and in his relation to all moral, social, and municipal affairs of his community, as well as to medicine, he was zealous for the right as he saw it, almost to the point of austerity.

Though Doctor Parkinson is gone we remember and cherish his counsels, his example, and his influence for good, and extend to his family our affectionate sympathy.

(Signed) H. D. LAWHEAD
W. E. BATES
J. B. HARRIS

Committee of California Northern District Medical Society.



Doctor Rist, who was recently a guest of the American Tuberculosis Association and a speaker at their annual meeting, is well known in the United States, as the following citation which accompanied his Distinguished Service Medal will attest:

Edouard Rist, Major Medical Service, French Army, D. S. M. (Army). As an eminent scientist, by his untiring zeal, devotion and energy he promoted the efficient

treatment of the American sick and wounded. In this important research work he co-operated with the Medical Service of the American Expeditionary Forces in the fullest measure of devotion to duty. To him is due much credit for the arresting of the ravages of disease and injuries among our forces. His valuable research efforts in the domain of preventive medicine and wound bacteriology resulted in the saving of many lives among our wounded soldiers. He has rendered services of signal worth.

He is now chief physician of the Laennec Hospital, tuberculosis department, and Leon-Bourgeois Dispensary in Paris, where he has developed a center for tuberculosis study and research. He is a product of the University School of Medicine at the Pasteur Institute, subsequently occupying an important position in Egypt.

This is his fourth visit to the United States. In 1919 he was invited to accept the chair of medicine at the University of Michigan, but declined. In 1917 he occupied a desk in Surgeon-General Gorgas' office at Washington as a member of the French scientific mission to America.

Doctor Rist came to California as the guest of the California Tuberculosis Association. Special meetings were held for him in Oakland and San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Some 125 members of the Academy of Medicine attended a reception and banquet given by the organization at the Palace Hotel on October 22, in Doctor Rist's honor.

President Ophuls of the academy introduced the speaker as one of the most distinguished authorities on tuberculosis in the world.

Doctor Rist is not only a great physician, but a delightful and charming guest.

In last month's *Medical and Health Agency News* we said that "most of the better class sanitariums for tuberculosis patients are listed in our advertising space, to their advantage, as well as advantage to doctors in other states who are constantly referring patients to institutions in California." This is true, but through a clerical error the *Canyon Sanatorium* at Redwood City was omitted from the sanitariums so listed, although, as our readers know, they have for a long time carried a very attractive full-page announcement in every issue of our magazine, as they are continuing to do.

The Park Sanitarium (San Francisco), an accredited institution for the care of the mentally ill, has improved their facilities by the addition of a hydropathic annex and a commodious roof-garden and solarium.

Some of the points made by Boris Herman in his recent talk before the Public Health Section of the Commonwealth Club were that patients were adopting all kinds of means to reduce hospital and medical costs to the minimum, or to in some way assure themselves that they would be cared for in case of illness, without impossible outlay. He mentioned clinics, lodges, hospital associations, insurance, quack remedies, and beating their bills. He discussed experience with state insurance in Germany, England and Holland, where he said that a new system was about to be instituted, available only to people of moderate or small incomes, the patient to select his own doctor. An idea he expressed was that something like this was bound to come, and that doctors and medical people should be on the ground floor, ready to see that it was carried out as it should be. He also brought out the value to a community from the public health standpoint in having medical attention available for those who need it, many patients hesitating to call in a doctor when "a stitch in time would save nine."

During the fiscal year July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1925, 9765 patients were accepted for treatment at the University of California hospital clinic. During the year 1925 to 1926 this total increased to 10,166. The total number making application for treatment was 10,842 and 12,409 for the two years, respectively.

This raises the total number of patients who have been

treated since the founding of the clinic, thirteen years ago, to approximately 140,000.—University of California Clip Sheet.

Volume I, Number 1, "Hospital News," published by the Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, contains much well-presented information of value to all persons interested in hospital and medical work.

Among the several brief articles and carefully culled news items is one outlining a series of popular health lectures to be given at the hospital by members of the staff. The titles of the lectures include such subjects as: X-ray and Its Uses; Radium and Its Uses; The Control of Cancer; Dangers of Earache; Why Have a Tonsil Operation? "Colds"; Styles in Diet; Cancer of the Stomach; Plumbing of the Intestinal Tract and Its Harm; A Normal Gastrointestinal Tract; Ulcers of the Stomach; Our Eyes and What We Should Know About Them; Heart Troubles and Their Causes; Treatment of Heart Troubles; High Blood Pressure and Hard Arteries; Symptoms of Kidney Diseases; Dangers of Ruptures; Value of Periodic Medical Examinations; Vacations and the Doctor; First Aid Everyone Should Know.

Elliott P. Joslin of Boston addressed the San Diego County Medical Society November 18, at Casa de Manana, La Jolla. Subject: "The Outlook for the Diabetic." Courtesy of the Scripps Metabolic Clinic, La Jolla.

St. Joseph's Hospital, San Francisco, considered "Cancer Progress" at the staff meeting held November 10. Alson R. Kilgore opened with "Earliest Signs of Cancer," saying in part:

"Since cancer is apparently an accident of cell growth and reproduction by which one cell or group of cells are lost to control and reproduce a mass of similar wild cells, the earliest sign of cancer is a 'lump'—a lump of wild cells. If this lump is on the surface of the body, where it can be seen or felt early, the chances of its discovery in time for cure by radical removal or destruction are excellent; therefore, the lump in the breast (usually painless at first), the wart (lump) on the lip, the hard ulcer (lump) on the tongue or in the mouth—all are signs of possible trouble which everyone should know.

"When the lump is in an internal organ, it cannot be seen or felt early and other signs must be looked for. In the uterus, abrasion of the surface of the growth and consequent bleeding or foul discharge are the commonest early symptoms. Similarly, in the bowel, bleeding may be the first indication, though the irritation of the presence of a cancerous lump may cause obstinate constipation or diarrhea.

"If we may form a judgment from the trend of knowledge acquired by clinical observation and research during the past generation or more, cancer is apparently not a germ disease, i. e., the accident of a cell breaking loose from control in its relation with the rest of the body is not caused by an infecting organism. If this be true, no serum for the cure of cancer may be expected. It would be far better if the hope of a serum cure could be abandoned by the community, at least until our knowledge radically changes, because every newly announced serum means delay in securing adequate surgical treatment for some early cases."

W. E. Chamberlain spoke on "X-ray and Radium in Uterine Carcinoma," showing a favorable outlook with a proper technique. Ernst Gehrtes demonstrated "Rectal Cancer Cases" with specimens and patients. L. Crow and J. M. Stowell stressed radiation in cancers.

Case reports were presented by M. B. Ryer, William Quinn, G. E. Chapman, and Samuel Barmak. Sister Agnes and Dr. Roy Parkinson discussed "Nurses' Bedside Clinics" and C. E. French "Preoperative Skin Antisepsis."

On December 8 Emmet Rixford will speak on "A Trip to some European Clinics," based on his last tour of surgical advances.

At the last quarterly banquet and meeting of the Mount Zion Hospital staff held at the Concordia Club,

a short discussion on x-ray therapy was presented by Lloyd Bryan. Some of the points brought out in this paper were:

Treatment by x-ray is most successful with benign lesions. Fibroids respond very well and should be given roentgen therapy, unless they are extremely large, where there is an inflammatory process of the adnexa or cystic ovaries, where the possibility of future pregnancy is important and the fibroid can be removed without removing the uterus.

Thyroid can be treated as well, if not better, than by surgery with the exception of the large colloid and adenomatous goiters, which are definitely surgical.

Skin conditions, as eczema, psoriasis, acne, keloids, and carbuncles are benefited greatly by x-ray, except that the effect in many of these is temporary and cannot be repeated too often on account of skin reactions.

X-ray to date is the only promising treatment for leukemias, Hodgkin's and lymphosarcoma. Although these patients are not cured, their lives are often prolonged and they may be made comfortable for many years.

Light doses of x-ray may relieve an acute iritis within twenty-four hours. Tuberculosis glands and enlarged bronchial root glands are frequently helped. An acute suppression of urine may be relieved by x-ray easier than by a decapsulation. In tonsils radiation is second choice to surgery. It tends to prevent recurrence of lymphoid tissue on postpharyngeal wall.

In carcinoma, surgery is the method of choice. Incomplete removal, followed up by x-ray, is advisable where complete removal is impossible.

X-ray is of no benefit in carcinoma of the stomach and intestine; no better than surgery in the treatment of primary bone neoplasm, and of questionable value in the treatment of carcinoma of the uterus. It is of decided benefit in the treatment of carcinoma of the ovaries.

It is better than surgery in the treatment of superficial malignancies of the face.

In breast carcinomas statistics of Soiland, Schmitz, Phabler, Widmer, show five-year cures by combined surgical and x-ray treatment of 36, 42, and 46 per cent, as compared with 4.5 per cent of five-year cures of surgery alone reported by Ewing.

Doederleine's clinic gives figures of 46 per cent for cases without glands and 5 per cent with glands when treated by surgery, as compared with 80 and 36 per cent when treated by the combined method.

As to the time and amount of treatment, there should be constant co-operation and consultation between the surgeon and roentgenologist preferably by seeing the patient together.

Discussion followed: Harold Brunn reported some bad recurrences in carcinoma of the breast. Recurrences were more frequent where x-ray had been given immediately before operation. Does not advise x-ray treatment until recurrences have appeared. Had very good results with carcinoma of the cervix. The question of whether to operate after lesion is cleaned up is still an open one. Best results are with leukemias and Hodgkin's.

Joseph Sampson reported good results with x-ray treatment of enlarged thymus. Adolph Nahman reported a case of lymphatic leukemia, whose blood count came down from 160,000 to 50,000 after six treatments.

Lloyd Bryan said Carter Wood advises frequent small doses with x-ray after operation. Big doses may break down the lymphocytic carrier.

Bone metastases are often stopped and patients given a few more years of active comfortable life. X-ray does not produce a carcinoma, but it may hasten recurrence, breaking down the barrier by massive doses. No good results are found in treating carcinoma of the lung when the pleura is involved.

Adenomas of the thyroid are not suitable for x-ray therapy. Simple hyperthyroidism responds well.

The discussion closed with a plea for a get-together of surgeon, physician, pathologist, and roentgenologist, and to have all patients brought before a committee to determine treatment.

Louis I. Breitstein opened up a discussion on the subject of pregnancy occurring after sterilization operation. He stated that the records of Mount Zion Hospital since 1912 show that forty-five women had been sterilized at

the time of Caesarean section and five of these became pregnant again at subsequent dates. The method of sterilization had been the removal of the cornual ends of the tube. In one of the women who became pregnant following this procedure, there was found at reoperation a new tube projecting from the site of the resection of the old tube. Another explanation for the occurrence of pregnancy in these sterilized women might be found in the well-known fact that the ova have powers of burrowing their way through the tissues and possibly penetrating the uterus in this manner. Breistein further mentioned the question of therapeutic abortion and felt that where the indications for this procedure were present, as for instance in early pulmonary tuberculosis, the procedure of choice was to perform a hysterotomy and partial resection of the tubes for sterilization rather than curettage.

R. K. Smith substantiated these observations, stating that in his experience also he had had cases where pregnancy had recurred despite sterilization. He compared the burying of the tube as it is done in the sterilization operation to the bone left in cases of leg amputation, showing that both have a tendency to burrow through the overlying tissues.

The Medical Reserve Corps—The surgeon, Ninth Corps Area, announces that Oregon is the latest state to furnish its full quota of officers of the Medical Reserve Corps, and to join the 100 per cent class. The other two states in this class are Montana, which has furnished 110 per cent, and Utah which has furnished 132 per cent. About every fourth physician in Utah is now an officer of the Medical Reserve Corps, besides which the applications of many others had to be rejected by reason of age or physical unfitness for service. Wyoming has furnished 91 per cent. The splendid record of these four states are standards which the medical profession of California and Nevada can well afford to emulate. California has so far furnished but 67 per cent of its quota, and 410 more medical officers are required. Nevada has furnished but

57 per cent, or less than half the percentage of its neighbor state of Utah. Nevada needs to furnish ten more medical officers to fill its quota.

The physicians of California and Nevada are at least undoubtedly as patriotic as that of their bordering states of Oregon and Utah. But until they have fulfilled their obligations, they appear as laggards. It does not look well for them to have numerous vacancies in their units filled through the enthusiasm and surplus patriotic enrollments of other states, as is now the case. It would be very desirable for the county medical societies of California and Nevada to take up actively the matter of filling their state quotas, and to urge upon such of their members as seem to conform to the required standards as to age and physical condition to make application for commission in the Medical Reserve Corps. The surgeon, Ninth Corps Area, Presidio of San Francisco, California, will gladly furnish the necessary blank forms and any other information desired.

North American Physicians are Invited to Visit the Clinics of Europe Again in 1927—In May next year a group of physicians with members of their families from the United States and Canada, under the direction of the Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association of North America, will sail from New York to visit the following leading medical centers of the Old World:

London, Edinburgh, Oslo, Stockholm, Upsala, Lund, Copenhagen, Hamburg, Leipzig, Munich, Strasbourg, Heidelberg, Frankfurt, and Paris.

This will be the third year that foreign assemblies have been conducted under the auspices of this organization.

The price of the trip will be kept as low as possible and yet furnish first-class accommodations. It will be between \$1000 and \$1100. All physicians who are in good standing in their state or provincial society may register. Further information may be obtained from the managing-director, Dr. William B. Peck, Freeport, Illinois.

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CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE has grown to a size where it is no longer possible to bind the twelve issues of one year in the same volume. Therefore, beginning with this year, there will be two volumes a year, one covering the six issues from January to June, inclusive, and the other from July to December, inclusive. Volumes will be numbered serially as heretofore, and each volume will be supplied with an index.

In preparing the index to this volume, we have followed the method of an alphabetical subject and author index combined. It is not as full perhaps as it should be, because it would take most of the time of an indexing secretary to prepare as complete an index as we would like to see. However, it is full enough so that any major subject discussed during the year, and the names of all authors, may be readily located.

An ever enlarging circle of physicians who read systematically are finding the Cumulative Index published quarterly by the A. M. A., and sold for a nominal subscription, of incalculable value. Everything published in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, as well as other worthwhile medical magazines, is completely indexed in the "Cumulative" in a most complete author and subject index. Our editorial staff use this volume constantly.—EDITOR.

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